



MINUTES

CMAQ Project Selection Committee

Thursday, October 23, 2014 2:00 p.m.
CMAQ Offices

Committee Members Present: Chris Snyder, Chair (Counties), Doug Ferguson (CMAQ), Mark Pitstick (RTA), Keith Privett (CDOT), William Rodeghier (Council of Mayors), Mike Rogers (IEPA – via phone), Chris Schmidt (IDOT)

Staff Present: Alex Beata, Patricia Berry, Kama Dobbs, Jesse Elam, Russell Pietrowiak

Others Present: Len Cannata, Bruce Carmitchel, John Donovan, Ashley Lucas, Brian Pigeon, Andrianna Peterson (via phone), Michael Plant (via phone), Tom Rickert, Tom Slattery (via phone), Lorraine Snorden (via phone), Tom Weaver, Michael Weiser, Tammy Wierciak

1.0 Call to Order

Committee Chairman Snyder called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

None

3.0 Approval of Minutes – July 17, 2014

On a motion by Mr. Ferguson and a second by President Rodeghier, the minutes of the August 21, 2014 meeting were approved as presented.

4.0 Program Monitoring

4.1 Programming Project Status Sheets

Ms. Dobbs reported that the recurring reports on the programming status of active and deferred projects and the line item changes since the last meeting of the Project Selection Committee were included in the meeting packet.

4.2 Obligation Goal

Ms. Dobbs reported that the update on CMAQ obligations for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2014 was included in the meeting packet. Since the report was printed, an additional \$6 million has been authorized. A few projects that were scheduled did not get authorized in time for the November letting, so we fell short of our FFY 2014 obligation goal by about \$16 million.

The region started the year with an unobligated balance of \$189 million. There were \$216 million programmed on active and deferred projects in FFY 2014 at the beginning of the year. \$122 million was authorized; \$106 million on active projects and \$16 million on deferred line items.

The region spent \$17 million over the allotment for the year, reducing the outstanding unobligated balance by that amount. The unobligated balance from FFY 14 will be carried to FFY 15, resulting in a draft programming mark of approximately \$172 million. Taking preliminary status update results into consideration, approximately \$160 million is programmed on active projects and over \$40 million is programmed on deferred line items targeting 2015.

Staff suggests adding the \$16 million that didn't quite make it to obligation in FFY 14 to the obligation goal for FFY 15, making that goal \$162 million. \$20 million has already been authorized in FFY 15, and an additional \$50 million, including \$34 million for the Elgin-O'Hare project, is targeting the January state letting, getting the region off to a good start. Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pitstick to set the region's obligation goal for FFY 2015 to \$162 million. All ayes, the motion carried.

4.3 October Status Updates

Ms. Dobbs reported that the response rate on status updates due October 21 was a 100%. Staff follow-up was required on approximately a dozen reports. Preliminary results indicate that approximately \$34 million would be reprogrammed from FFY 2014 mostly in FFY 2015. Approximately \$13 million will be reprogrammed from FFY 2015 to FFY 2016. A more comprehensive summary of results is planned for the December meeting.

5.0 Project Changes

5.1 DuPage County DOT – Fabyan Pkwy/Washington St at Roosevelt Rd (TIP ID 08-12-0006)

Ms. Dobbs described the sponsor's request for a cost increase for ROW in the amount of \$177,000 federal CMAQ (\$221,000 total). Mr. Snyder added that the project was ready for the November letting however title was needed for two parcels, which has delayed the letting to January. Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by President Rodeghier, to approve the requested cost increase. The motion carried.

5.2 Village of Skokie – Main Street Bike Lanes (TIP ID 02-14-0002)

Ms. Dobbs described the sponsor's request to transfer \$32,000 federal CMAQ (\$40,000 total) from phase 2 engineering in FFY 2014 to Construction in FFY 2015. Mr. Privett

made a motion, seconded by President Rodeghier, to approve the requested transfer. The motion carried.

5.3 IDOT - Pulaski Rd at 115th St (TIP ID 06-12-0004)

Ms. Dobbs described the sponsor's request for a cost increase of \$200,000 federal CMAQ (\$250,000 total) in FFY 2015 for Construction. Mr. Privett made a motion, seconded by President Rodeghier, to approve the requested cost increase. The motion carried.

5.4 Metra – Great Lakes Station Parking (TIP ID 18-03-0577)

Ms. Dobbs described the sponsor's request for a cost increase of \$48,000 federal CMAQ (\$60,000 total) for construction, which is complete; however traffic signal improvements were required in order to open the lot for use and can be charged to the grant. The project is included in the same FTA grant as the LaFox Station project, which is also complete. Ms. Berry said that investigation into methods for identifying unexpended CMAQ funds in FTA grants continues. CMAP has requested FTA assistance in identifying these funds; since currently CMAP currently has no way to know what funds are available for reprogramming. The LaFox Station project had an unexpended balance of \$48,000 which staff withdrew as an administrative modification upon notification by Metra. Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Privett, to approve the requested cost increase. The motion carried.

5.5 LaGrange – LaGrange Stone Ave Metra Station Area Pedestrian Access Improvements (TIP ID 05-14-0001)

Ms. Dobbs described the sponsor's request for a scope, schedule and cost change. This project was approved for construction funding in FFY 2014 as part of a group of projects that comprised the RTA's Regionwide Transit Access Improvements project. Following program development sponsorship of the projects was transferred to local agencies, with RTA entering into agreements with the locals to pay the local match for the initial programmed amount. Per that agreement, additional local match for this or any future increases is the responsibility of the sponsor. Mr. Pitstick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, to approve the requested scope, schedule and cost change. The motion carried.

5.6 Administrative Modifications

Ms. Dobbs described administrative modifications included in the packet that were completed by staff.

6.0 Travel Demand Management (TDM)

Mr. Schmidt reported that earlier in the year the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) released a white paper in coordination with the RTA regarding TDM in the region. IDOT took interest in the paper and dedicated state planning funds for consultant services to take the lead in coordinating TDM within the state. A five-year pilot project for the seven-county Northeastern Illinois was advertised in the August 7 Professional Transportation Bulletin.

The scope of the advertisement was developed in cooperation with the service boards, RTA and CDOT. The program products will include a TDM program brand and marketing plan, a resource website, establishing and operating a regional Guaranteed

Ride Home (GRH) program, an incentive program and a comprehensive performance analysis.

Three firms bid on the project: URS, TranSystems and Parsons Brinkerhoff. The selection committee, which included RTA and CDOT participation, selected TranSystems, which will be announced in a press release today. The TranSystems proposal provides for a steering group which will begin meeting with the consultant soon after the contract award. In response to questions from Mr. Snyder, Mr. Schmidt stated that the MPC paper made clear that coordination of services was needed. The pilot program will not be a pot of funding for locals to take part in, the team will actually staff a call center and the GRH will be an "on the ground" TDM program.

Locals will be engaged through coordinated outreach to municipalities and employers in the region, working with the transit providers and stakeholder group to be formed. Although the project is a high priority, it is complex and is estimated to begin in 210 days. Mr. Pitstick added that this is implementation, not a study and that qualifications-based selection will take more time to negotiate for intergovernmental agreements.

7.0 MAP-21

Mr. Donovan stated there was nothing to report.

8.0 Other Business

In response to a question from Mr. Rickert, Mr. Elam stated that the application book for the next call for projects would be available at the committee's December meeting. Mr. Snyder asked if it could be distributed any earlier and if there would be more discussion on weighting. He stated that at the last meeting, the committee had asked to see the final scoring criteria before the application packet.

Mr. Elam noted that there have been no changes since the criteria were last discussed but if the committee still has a level of discomfort, the criteria could be provided to the committee again three weeks before the December 18 meeting. Mr. Pitstick agreed with Mr. Snyder that the committee hadn't come to closure. Mr. Snyder expressed concern that if there was significant discussion in December there would not be time to meet deadlines around the holidays.

In response to a question from Mr. Weaver, Mr. Ferguson stated that the call would be issued in late January, early February, with application due in late February or early March. Mr. Schmidt stated that receiving the application book three weeks ahead of the next meeting should be okay, and if there were significant issues, the call could be pushed back.

Mr. Snyder asked for confirmation that staff would provide the scoring criteria memo and responses to comments three weeks ahead of the next meeting. Mr. Elam stated that there were no outstanding issues, and staff was not planning to update the memo. Scoring criteria are being incorporated into the application booklet. Mr. Snyder and Mr. Pitstick stated they believe there were still unresolved issues on the scores as discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Elam clarified that at the last meeting policies were discussed, not scores. Mr. Snyder stated that the committee should concur prior to the application booklet being

released. Mr. Rickert suggested that the committee should review the scoring memo, meeting notes, etc. and let staff know of any outstanding concerns.

Mr. Elam indicated there have been no comments on the weights and no changes since July. Mr. Pitstick requested that the scoring memo be changed and sent for committee review. Mr. Privett suggested a red line version of the memo be distributed so members could determine if there were outstanding issues. Mr. Schmidt asked if the committee would approve the application book. Mr. Rickert stated that if the memo were provided three weeks prior to the meeting, corrections could be made before the meeting.

Mr. Elam committed to provide the memo by December 1 and requested that committee members submit written comments to be addressed and presented for release at the December meeting. In response to a question from Mr. Weaver, Mr. Schmidt stated that IDOT's concerns regarding providing separate air quality and transportation impact criteria scores were addressed with the policy changes adopted at the last meeting. Mr. Weaver stated the committee had not seen the policy changes with Mr. Rogers' language. Mr. Snyder stated that the changes were made and sent to the Transportation Committee, as reflected in their minutes and the memo sent to the MPO Policy Committee and CMAP Board. The MPO Policy Committee and CMAP Board adopted the Programming and Management policies at their meetings in October. Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Privett noted they hadn't seen the adopted policies. Ms. Berry stated the updated policies were included in the Transportation, MPO Policy committee and CMAP Board meeting materials and are posted on the CMAQ web page.

Mr. Elam reiterated that the draft application book would be provided to the committee by December 1. Mr. Snyder stated he thought a red line version of the scoring memo was to be provided. Mr. Ferguson clarified that the scoring criteria are a part of the application book. Mr. Rickert stated that having the application book by December 1 would be good, but it would be better to have the memo showing any outstanding issues so that staff could address those issues prior to completing the application book. Mr. Rickert encouraged members to provide timely comments to staff so that final action could be taken at the December 18 meeting. Mr. Elam agreed that the red line version of the scoring memo would be sent in early November and the draft application book by December 1.

Mr. Snyder reminded the committee of the upcoming John Noel Public Transit Conference to be held on October 24 at 8:00 a.m. at Cantigny in Winfield.

9.0 Public Comment

None.

10.0 Next Meeting

The committee's next meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

11.0 Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Schmidt, and a second by Mr. Ferguson, the meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.